

## FOUNDATION FOR FAIR CONTRACTING OF CONNECTICUT, INC.

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## TESTIMONY of Cindy Dubuque, MSW Executive Director

Re: HB 910 AN ACT CONCERNING THE INCLUSION OF THE HISTORY OF THE WORKER IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOL CURRICULUM.

February 27, 2015

Honorable Senator Winfield, Honorable Representative Tercyak, and esteemed members of the Labor Committee:

The Foundation for Fair Contracting of Connecticut ("FFC") submits this testimony in support of HB 910 AN ACT CONCERNING THE INCLUSION OF THE HISTORY OF THE WORKER IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOL CURRICULUM.

The Foundation for Fair Contracting of Connecticut is an industry-sponsored organization. Our mission is to promote compliance with laws and regulations relating to public works construction. Specifically, we focus on issues concerning wages, classification of workers and apprenticeship standards.

The history of the United States has been shaped by oppression and those seeking to overcome that oppression. This basic idea is demonstrated by the Revolutionary War, in which our forefathers sought to throw off the yolk of tyranny from Great Britain. As we progressed as a nation, we witnessed many wars for expansion of our Manifest Destiny through conflict with both tribal and foreign nations. Once the United States established itself, our history became wrought with struggles surrounding slavery, the rights of women, civil rights in post-bellum America, and policies related to immigration and labor to name a few. As such, encouraging local and regional boards of education to include labor history and law in their curriculum makes sense, since the labor movement and its history is integral to the society that we live in today. In addition, including the history and economics of free market capitalism and entrepreneurialism can only serve to accompany and explain the symbiotic relationship between the labor movement and the growth of capitalism: you cannot discuss one without the other. Therefore, the FFC encourages the committee to support this bill with the addition of the history of capitalism.